

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF IOWA  
EASTERN DIVISION**

KEVIN J. HOWARD,

Plaintiff,

vs.

UNKNOWN DEFENDANTS,

Defendants.

No. C06-2058-EJM

**ORDER**

This matter is before the court on the submission of a letter from plaintiff, which the Clerk's Office filed as a 42 U.S.C. § 1983 action on August 7, 2006. Dismissed.

A letter is insufficient to commence a civil action. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 3 (indicating a civil action is commenced by filing a complaint); see also Fed. R. Civ. P. 8 (addressing general rules of pleading). Moreover, the plaintiff submits neither the \$350.00 filing fee nor an application to proceed in forma pauperis. See 28 U.S.C. § 1914(a) (requiring \$350.00 filing fee); 28 U.S.C. § 1915 (explaining proceedings in forma pauperis). Accordingly, this action shall be dismissed without prejudice. 28 U.S.C. § 1914; 28 U.S.C. § 1915.

It is therefore

ORDERED

Dismissed.

August 29, 2006.

  
Edward J. McManus, Judge  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT